

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to advance the case to issue without delay.

Claims 4-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for being indefinite for omitting essential steps. The omitted steps were said to occur between step (B) after applying the cosmetic product and step (C) placing the adhesive surface of the strip against the skin. Clarification was required by the Examiner as to the time at which the adhesive strip is placed subsequent to application of the cosmetic product.

Applicants consider that the claims are fully definite and do not omit any essential steps. Of course, applicants will certainly provide clarification as to the timing of events. Time is not a criticality. If the user is so inclined, the strip can be immediately applied after application of the cosmetic. This establishes a baseline. Yet it is similarly acceptable to establish a baseline hours or even days later. The cosmetic does not interfere with the imprint. This procedure can then be repeated at six or eight weeks or at any further interval. Applicants' specification has outlined this in paragraph [00017]. The change in the imprint from the first (baseline) imprint to that taken by the second imprint some weeks later establishes the efficacy (or non-efficacy) of the applied cosmetic product.

Claims 5-10 were said to be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. The claims have been amended in line with the indication of allowability. Accordingly, amended kit claim 1 reflects the combination of

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original claim 1 with claim 9. Amended method claim 4 reflects the combination of original claim 4 with claim 5.

In view of the foregoing amendment and comments, applicants believe that the claims are now in condition for allowance and such action is herewith requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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